

REMARKS

Applicant submits these remarks in response to the Office Action dated June 25, 2004 ("Office Action"). Applicant has calculated the amount due in extension fees. In the event that Applicant is incorrect in the calculation, please charge any fee due in connection with this submission to Deposit Account No. 50-2212, Order Number 053403.026.1766.

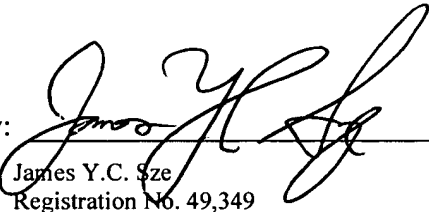
Applicant has amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner.

Applicant believes that all claims are now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (858) 509-4008.

Respectfully submitted,
PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

Dated: December 27, 2004

By:


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CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8 and/or 1.10*

(When using Express Mail, the Express Mail label number is *mandatory*; Express Mail certification is *optional*.)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: December 27, 2004


Signature

Sachiko Y. Snedden

(type or print name of person certifying)

* Only the date of filing (§ 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under § 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See § 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (§ 1.10) or facsimile transmission (§ 1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.